

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1-61. (canceled)

62. (currently amended) An image data communication system, comprising:

an image data distribution device for sequentially distributing, over a transmission resource, a plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data with prescribed time differences; and

an image data reception device for receiving, from the transmission resource, moving picture image data that are distributed from said image data distribution device while moving among a plurality of radio areas[[]],

wherein when the transmission resource is sufficient to distribute the moving picture image data,[[:]]

said image data reception device, at a time of handover that occurs when moving from a current radio area to another neighboring radio area, receives over a prescribed interval said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data having prescribed time differences that are distributed from said image data distribution device and selects necessary data from the received moving picture image data to reconstruct one set of moving picture image data[[]], and

said image data distribution device, during only said prescribed interval, performs priority control such that said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data having prescribed time differences are received together in said image data reception device, and

wherein when the transmission resource is not sufficient to distribute the moving picture image data,

said image data reception device, at the time of handover, receives only one of said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data, and

said image data distribution device performs priority control by discarding ones of said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data other than said only one.

63. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication system according to claim 62, wherein said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data are a plurality of sets of encoded image data in which identical image data have been encoded by the same encoding method.

64. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication system according to claim 63, wherein the transmission resource is a transmission line and wherein:

said image data distribution device includes:

encoded image data transmission means for both sequentially transmitting on [[a]] the transmission line said plurality of sets of identical encoded image data with prescribed time differences in at least said prescribed interval and, during this

transmission, conferring to each of said plurality of sets of identical encoded image data information that is necessary for said reconstruction; and

said image data reception device includes:

encoded image data reception means for receiving said plurality of sets of identical encoded image data having said prescribed time differences by way of said transmission line from said encoded image data transmission means; and

reconstruction means for referring to information necessary for said reconstruction that has been conferred to the encoded image data to reconstruct, as one set of encoded image data, said plurality of sets of identical encoded image data having said prescribed time differences that have been received in said encoded image data reception means.

65. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication system according to claim 64, wherein:

said image data distribution device further includes a control means for implementing prescribed control setting on said transmission line for said plurality of sets of identical encoded image data having prescribed time differences that are transmitted from said encoded image data transmission means; and

said control means performs said prescribed control setting such that during normal operation that excludes said prescribed interval, of said plurality of sets of identical encoded image data having prescribed time differences, at least a prescribed set of encoded image data is received with priority in said image data

reception device; and sets said prescribed control such that during said prescribed intervals, said plurality of sets of identical encoded image data having prescribed time differences are both received in said image data reception device.

66. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication system according to claim 65, wherein:

said image data reception device further includes a control information processing means for determining the start and end of said handover based on a reception state of encoded image data in said encoded image data reception means;

said control information processing means both transmits a start notification to said control means when said handover starts and transmits an end notification to said control means after the passage of a prescribed time interval from the end of said handover; and

said control means implements said prescribed control setting with the interval from the reception of said start notification until the reception of said end notification as said prescribed interval.

67. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication system according to claim 65, wherein:

said image data reception device further includes a control information processing means for determining the start of said handover based on the reception state of encoded image data in said encoded image data reception means;

said control information processing means transmits to said control means a first request to alter said prescribed control setting at the start of said handover, and transmits to said control means a second request to alter said prescribed control setting after the passage of a prescribed time interval from the end of said handover; and

said control means performs said prescribed control setting with the interval from the reception of said first request until the reception of said second request as said prescribed interval.

68. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication system according to claim 65, wherein:

said image data reception device further includes a reception state report means for reporting the reception state of encoded image data in said encoded image data reception means to said image data distribution device at prescribed intervals; and

said control means determines the start and end of said handover based on reports of the reception state from said reception state report means, and implements said prescribed control setting with an interval that includes said handover interval and an interval from said end until the passage of a prescribed time interval as said prescribed interval.

69. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication system according to claim 65, wherein said prescribed control setting is routing priority control on said transmission line.

70. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication system according to claim 69, wherein during said normal

operation, said control means sets said routing priority that relates to, of said plurality of sets of identical encoded image data having prescribed time differences, said prescribed encoded image data higher than for other encoded image data; and during said prescribed interval, both sets said routing priority that relates to said prescribed encoded image data lower than during said normal operation and sets said routing priority that relates to said other encoded image data higher than during said normal operation.

71. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication system according to claim 65, wherein said prescribed control setting is power control on a radio transmission line that is a portion of said transmission line.

72. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication system according to claim 71, wherein: during said normal operation, said control means sets power on said radio transmission line that relates to, of said plurality of sets of identical encoded image data having prescribed time differences, said prescribed encoded image data higher than for other encoded image data, and during said prescribed interval, both sets power on said radio transmission line that relates to said prescribed encoded image data lower than during said normal operation and sets power on said radio transmission line that relates to said other encoded image data higher than during said normal operation.

73. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication system according to claim 65, wherein said prescribed control

setting is the bit rate of encoded image data that are transmitted on said transmission line.

74. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication system according to claim 73, wherein: during said normal operation, said control means sets said bit rate that relates to, of said plurality of sets of identical encoded image data having prescribed time differences, said prescribed encoded image data higher than for other encoded image data; and during said prescribed interval, both sets said bit rate that relates to said prescribed encoded image data lower than during said normal operation and sets said bit rate that relates to said other encoded image data higher than during said normal operation.

75.-90. (canceled)

91. (currently amended) An image data communication method carried out in a communication system in which an image data distribution device and an image data reception device are connected so as to allow ~~communication~~ distribution of moving picture image data by way of a transmission ~~line,~~ resource, said image data communication method comprising:

when the transmission resource is sufficient to distribute the moving picture image data,

a first step in which said image data distribution device sequentially distributes a plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data with prescribed time differences to said image data reception device;

a second step in which said image data reception device, at a time of handover that occurs when moving from a current radio area to another neighboring radio area, receives over a prescribed interval said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data having prescribed time differences that have been distributed from said image data distribution device, and selects necessary data from the moving picture image data that have been received to reconstruct one set of moving picture image data; and

a third step in which said image data distribution device performs priority control such that, only during said prescribed interval, said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data having prescribed time differences are received together in said image data reception device, and

when the transmission resource is not sufficient to distribute the moving picture image data,

said image data reception device, at the time of handover, receives only one of said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data, and

said image data distribution device performs priority control by discarding ones of said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data other than said only one.

92. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication method according to claim 91, wherein:

said first step includes a step in which said image data distribution device, when transmitting said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data, confers to each of said



plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data information necessary for said reconstruction; and

said second step includes a step in which said image data reception device refers to said information necessary for said reconstruction that has been conferred to said moving picture image data to reconstruct said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data having prescribed time differences that have been distributed from said image data distribution device in said prescribed interval as one set of moving picture image data.

93. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication method according to claim 91, wherein said third step includes:

a step in which said image data distribution device, during normal operation that excludes said prescribed interval, sets prescribed control on said transmission [[line]] resource such that, of said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data having prescribed time differences, at least prescribed moving picture image data are received with priority in said image data reception device; and

a step in which said image data distribution device, during said prescribed interval, sets said prescribed control such that said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data having prescribed time differences are received together in said image data reception device.

94. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication method according to claim 93, wherein:

said second step includes:

a step in which said image data reception device determines the start and end of said handover based on the reception state of said moving picture image data; and

a step in which said image data reception device both transmits to said image data distribution device a start notification when said handover starts and transmits to said image data distribution device an end notification after the passage of a prescribed time interval from the end of said handover; and said third step includes:

a step in which said image data distribution device implements said prescribed control setting with the interval from the reception of said start notification until reception of said end notification as said prescribed interval.

95. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication method according to claim 93, wherein:

said second step includes:

a step in which said image data reception device determines the start and end of said handover based on the reception state of said moving picture image data; and

a step in which said image data reception device transmits to said image data distribution device a first request to alter said prescribed control setting when said handover starts, and transmits to said image data reception device a second request to alter said prescribed control setting after the passage of a prescribed time interval from the end of said handover; and said third step includes:

a step in which said image data distribution device performs said prescribed control setting with the interval from the reception of said first request until the reception of said second request as said prescribed interval.

96. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication method according to claim 93, wherein:

said second step includes a step in which said image data reception device reports to said image data distribution device at prescribed time intervals the reception state of said moving picture image data; and

said third step includes a step in which said image data distribution device determines the start and end of said handover based on the reports of reception state from said image data reception device, and performs said prescribed control setting with the interval that includes the interval of said handover and the interval from said end until the passage of a prescribed time interval as said prescribed interval.

97. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication method according to claim 93, wherein said prescribed control setting is control of routing priority on said transmission line.

98. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication method according to claim 97, wherein said third step includes a step in which said image data distribution device, during said normal operation, sets said routing priority that relates to said prescribed moving picture image data of said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data having prescribed time

differences higher than for other moving picture image data, and during said prescribed interval, both sets said routing priority that relates to said prescribed moving picture image data lower than during said normal operation and sets said routing priority that relates to said other moving picture image data higher than during said normal operation.

99. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication method according to claim 93, wherein said prescribed control setting is power control on a radio transmission line of said transmission line.

100. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication method according to claim 99, wherein said third step includes a step in which said image data distribution device, during said normal operation, sets power on said radio transmission line that relates to said prescribed moving picture image data of said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data having prescribed time differences higher than for other moving picture image data, and during said prescribed interval, both sets power on said radio transmission line that relates to said prescribed moving picture image data lower than during said normal operation and sets power on said radio transmission line that relates to said other moving picture image data higher than during said normal operation.

101. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication method according to claim 93, wherein said prescribed control

setting is the bit rate of encoded image data that are transmitted on said transmission line.

102. (currently amended) [[An]] The image data communication method according to claim 101, wherein in said third step, said image data distribution device, during said normal operation, sets said bit rate that relates to said prescribed moving picture image data of said plurality of sets of identical moving picture image data having prescribed time differences higher than for other moving picture image data, and during said prescribed interval, both sets said bit rate that relates to said prescribed moving picture image data lower than during said normal operation and sets said bit rate that relates to said other moving picture image data higher than during said normal operation.

103.-119. (canceled)